

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Department of Homeland Security has announced \$166 million in Recovery Act grants to fire stations across the country for construction projects, including a \$477,878 for renovations to the Marina Fire Department.

"Our nation, our state and our local communities are all suffering through this economic downturn, but it's vital that we make sure our first responders have the funds they need to keep our communities safe," said Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel). "We've seen over the past several months just how broadly the stimulus has been applied throughout the Central Coast and across the country, and I think we're really beginning to see that legislation pay the dividends we were hoping for."

The Fire Station Construction Grant Program awarded \$166 million to build new or modify existing fire stations to enhance response capabilities and protect communities from fire-related hazards. Grants will replace unsafe or uninhabitable structures and expand fire protection coverage in compliance with National Fire Protection Association standards.

"Infusing these Recovery Act dollars into local projects across the country will strengthen the nation's preparedness while helping to reinvigorate America's economy," said Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano. "These grants will enhance the resiliency of our critical infrastructure and improve our emergency response capabilities by supporting risk-based initiatives integral to our national security."

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